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CASE TX/4-100-8345F

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF

Art Unit: 1624

FUENFSCHILLING ET AL.

Examiner: Thomas C. McKenzie

APPLICATION NO: 10/625,142

FILED: JULY 23, 2003

FOR: PURIFICATION PROCESS

**MS: Amendment**

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

This in response to the Office Action mailed April 12, 2005 having a shortened one-month period for response which expires on May 12, 2005.

The Examiner has indicated that the claimed subject matter is drawn to three distinct inventions and has required restriction to one of the following inventions, Group I (Claim 14-16) drawn to purification of cyclosporine compounds, Group II (Claims 11-13, 17, and 19-22) drawn to purification of rapamycin and ascomycin compounds and to the compounds themselves, and Group III (Claim 18) drawn to a countercurrent extraction column. Applicants, elect without traverse, Group II, Claims 11-13, 17 and 19-22. Applicants expressly reserve the right to file a divisional application directed to non-elected claims of this application.

Early examination of the claims and allowance of the same are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: May 10, 2005